

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (Currently Amended) A method of eliciting a T cell response against a T cell epitope in a host mammalian subject, which method comprises

(i) a first immunisation that comprises at least two administrations ~~which are from 2 to 6 days apart~~ to the subject, wherein all subsequent administrations are given at least 2 and no more than 6 days after the first administration, and wherein each administration comprises administering a nucleotide sequence of interest (NOI) encoding the T cell epitope, and

(ii) a second immunisation that comprises at least one administration to the subject of a protein comprising the T cell epitope,

wherein the time between the first administration of the first immunisation, and the first administration of the second immunisation, is from 21 to 365 days.

2. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein the administrations of the first and/or second immunisation occur over 2 days, 3 days, 4 days, 5 days or 6 days.

3 (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein in the first and/or second immunisation the NOI or protein is administered from 2 to 10 times.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the time between the first administration of the first immunisation and the first administration of the second immunisation is from 50 to 250 days.

6. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, which further comprises a third immunisation that comprises at least one administration to the subject of (a) a NOI encoding the T cell epitope, or (b) a protein comprising the T cell epitope, wherein the time between the first administration of the second immunisation, and the first administration of the third immunisation, is from 10 to 365 days.

7. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 6 wherein in the third immunisation:

(i) the NOI or protein is administered 2 to 5 times, and/or (ii) the administrations are from 2 to 6 days apart, and/or

(iii) the time between the first administration of the second immunisation and the first administration of the third immunisation is from 50 to 250 days.

8. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the NOI comprises a DNA sequence under the control of a regulatory sequence capable of directing expression of the DNA sequence in a cell of the subject.

9. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, [[,]] wherein the T cell epitope is a CD4+ helper T lymphocyte cell epitope and/or CD8+ T lymphocyte (CTL) epitope.

10. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein one or more of the administrations of NOI comprise administration of from 0.1 to 2 ug of NOI.

11. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein one or more of the administrations comprises administration to the skin.

12. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein for at least one of the administrations of NOI or protein, the NOI or protein is coated on, or incorporated in, a particle.

13. (Original) The method according to claim 12 wherein the particle is administered to the subject by a particle acceleration device.

14. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein for at least one of the administrations of NOI or protein, the NOI or protein is administered as one or more compositions selected from the group consisting of

(i) a pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutical acceptable carrier, excipient or diluent;

(ii) a vaccine composition comprising an immunologically acceptable carrier, excipient or diluent; and

(iii) an immunotherapeutic composition comprising an immunologically acceptable carrier, excipient or diluent.

15. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 1, wherein the NOI or protein is co-administered with an adjuvant or a polynucleotide that is capable of expressing an adjuvant in a cell of the subject; or a method in which the NOI or protein is administered as

(i) a pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutical acceptable carrier, excipient or diluent; or

(ii) a vaccine composition comprising an immunologically acceptable carrier, excipient or diluent; or

(iii) an immunotherapeutic composition comprising an immunologically acceptable carrier, excipient or diluent, and wherein the composition further comprises an adjuvant or a polynucleotide that is capable of expressing an adjuvant in a cell of the subject.

16. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 15 wherein the adjuvant is a non-toxic form of the *E. coli* heat-labile enterotoxin (LT) or the *Vibrio Cholerae* cholera toxin (CT).

17. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 15 wherein the adjuvant is the B subunit (LTB) of the LT enterotoxin or B subunit (CTB) of CT cholera toxin.

18. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the T cell epitope is from a pathogen or from a cancer cell.

19. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the T cell epitope is from HSV, HIV, HPV, hepatitis virus or influenza virus antigens.

20. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, which is carried out to prevent or treat a disease in the subject.

21. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the NOI encodes at least two HSV, HIV, HPV, hepatitis virus or influenza virus antigens.

22. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 21 wherein the NOI encodes an HIV-1 gag protein, or fragment containing a gag epitope thereof, and a second HIV antigen or a fragment encoding an epitope of said second HIV antigen.

23. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 22 wherein the second antigen is selected from the group consisting of: Nef, RT or a fragment containing an epitope of Nef or RT.

24. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 22 wherein the NOI encodes a combination of antigens selected from the group consisting of:

- Gag (p17,p24), Nef truncate
- Gag (p17,p24) (codon optimised), Nef (truncate)
- Gag (p17,p24), RT, Nef (truncate)
- Gag (p17,p24), codon optimised RT, Nef (truncate)
- Gag (p17,p24), codon optimised RT, codon optimised Nef truncate;

and/or inactivated codon optimised RT, truncated Nef and p17/p24 portion of the codon optimised gag gene, optionally operatively linked downstream of an Iowa length HCMV promoter + exon 1, and upstream of a rabbit globin poly-adenylation signal.

25. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 1, wherein at least two different NOI's are administered which each encode the same epitope and/or at least two different proteins are administered which comprise the same epitope.

26. (Currently Amended) An assay for testing the effectiveness of a method of eliciting a T cell response, wherein the method comprises

(i) a first immunisation that comprises at least two administrations ~~which are from 2 to 6 days apart~~ to the subject, wherein all subsequent administrations are given at least 2 and no more than 6 days after the first administration, and wherein each administration comprises administering a nucleotide of interest (NOI) encoding a T cell epitope, and

(ii) a second immunisation that comprises at least one administration to the subject of a protein comprising the T cell epitope,

wherein the time between the first administration of the first immunisation, and the first administration of the second immunisation, is from 21 to 365 days,

wherein the assay comprises carrying out the method on a mammalian subject and then determining the level of activated or memory T cells specific to the epitope in the subject.

27. (Original) An assay according to claim 26 which comprises determining whether

(i) the administrations of the first immunisation all fall within the time period between the first administration of the first immunisation and the decline in the level of activated T cells to basal level, and/or

(ii) the first administration of the second immunisation occurs after the decline in the level of activated T cells to basal level.

28. (Withdrawn) A kit for carrying out the method of claim 1, wherein the kit comprises:

(a) a NOI encoding a T cell epitope or, a composition comprising the NOI or a protein, wherein the composition is

(i) a pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutical acceptable carrier, excipient or diluent; or

(ii) a vaccine composition comprising an immunologically acceptable carrier, excipient or diluent; or

(iii) an immunotherapeutic composition comprising an immunologically acceptable carrier, excipient or diluent; and

(b) instructions for administration of the NOI or composition in accordance with the method.